HARNESS RACING VICTORIA

LATE ARRIVAL POLICY

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Australian Harness Racing Rules (AHRR) require that a horse entered to race shall beat the racecourse sixty (60) minutes before the scheduled start time of the relevant race. The current practice of allowing a further fifteen (15) minutes, thereby allowing the horse to arrive at the racecourse fourty-five (45) minutes prior to its engagement shall continue, however Stewards require that the trainer or authorised representative advise when they will not be arriving at the racecourse sixty (60) minutes prior to their relevant race.

2. RELEVANT AUSTRALIAN HARNESS RACING RULES

41. **(1)** A horse entered to race at a meeting shall be at the racecourse at which the meeting is to be conducted sixty minutes before the scheduled start timeof the race or such other time as determined by the Controlling Body.

(2) Once present in accordance with sub-rule (1), a horse shall remain within thestabling area until it has completed its racing engagement unless otherwise approved by the Stewards.

(3) For the purposes of sub-rule (2), "stabling area" means that section of the racecourse at which the meeting is to be conducted used to stable horses entered torace at the meeting.

42. (1) If a horse is not at the racecourse by the appointed time mentioned in ordetermined under rule 41, the owner or trainer shall notify the club or other bodyconducting the meeting of that fact and the club or other body shall inform the Stewards.

(2) A horse not at the racecourse by the appointed time mentioned in or determinedunder rule 41 may be withdrawn by the Stewards.

(3) An owner or trainer who fails to comply with sub rule (1) or an official or representative of a club or other body who has been notified by an owner or trainerand fails to inform the Stewards or fails to ensure they are informed, is guilty of an offence.

3. POLICY

3.1. If Stewards are NOT notified about late arrival of horse

If Stewards are *not* notified that a horse will not be at the racecourse by the required sixty (60) minutes, Stewards may consider not granting the further fifteen (15) minute extension resulting in the horse to be withdrawn from the event. The trainer or authorised representative must notify Stewards that they will not be at the racecourse sixty (60) minutes prior to the relevant race, else they may be in breach of AHRR 42(3).

3.2. If Stewards are notified about late arrival of horse

Upon being notified that a horse will be not at the racecourse by the required sixty (60) minutes, Stewards will allow a further fifteen (15) minute extension thereby allowing the horse to arrive at the racecourse forty five (45) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the relevant race. In the event the horse is not physically at the racecourse forty five (45) minutes prior to the

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scheduled starting time of its race, the horse shall be withdrawn from its engagement by the Stewards. Under no circumstances will any further time extension be granted.

3.3. If arrival time is extended from usual Sixty (60) Minutes

If the required arrival time is extended by HRV Stewards from the usual sixty (60) minutes, the above procedures shall apply. HRV Stewards may consider withdrawing a horse from its engagement should it not be at the racecourse after an extension is afforded.